

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method comprising:

receiving primary content data at ~~an entertainment system~~ a set-top system from a primary external source;

displaying generating an output signal including the primary content data for display on a display coupled to the set-top system;

accessing a storage database of the ~~entertainment system~~ set-top system including subsidiary data independent of and complementary to the primary content data, the storage database having a plurality of portions each including a piece of the subsidiary data and an identifier that indicates the primary content data associated with the subsidiary data, using the identifier included in the primary content data to obtain the piece of the subsidiary data associated with the primary content data; and

displaying generating the output signal including the associated subsidiary data for display on the display.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving the subsidiary data corresponding to a program of the primary content data from the primary external source prior to beginning receipt of the program; and

storing the subsidiary data corresponding to the program locally in the storage database.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method of claim 2, wherein obtaining subsidiary data comprises obtaining the subsidiary data from a local nonvolatile storage medium of the set-top system.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining an elapsed time of a program of the primary content data;
identifying a portion of the subsidiary data from the plurality of portions which corresponds to the program;
identifying a piece of the portion of the subsidiary data which corresponds to the elapsed time of the program; and
displaying causing the piece to be displayed concurrently with the primary content data.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method of claim 4, wherein identifying a portion of the subsidiary data comprises accessing the storage ~~database~~.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the primary content data comprises data of at least one of a television broadcast, a digital satellite broadcast, an Internet broadcast, and an audio-only broadcast.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising determining the identity of the primary content data currently displayed via reading an identifier associated with the primary content data.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising retrieving the subsidiary data from a remote server.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the subsidiary data comprises at least one of reference information regarding a program of the primary content data, biographical information regarding actors, guests or participants of a program of the primary content data.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): The method of claim 1 wherein displaying the output signal causes the subsidiary data comprises displaying the subsidiary data to be displayed synchronous to the primary content data.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by a machine set-top system, cause the machine set-top system to perform operations comprising:

receiving primary content data at an entertainment set-top system from a primary external source;

displaying generating a display signal to cause a display coupled to the set-top system to display the primary content data;

accessing a storage database of the entertainment set-top system including subsidiary data independent of and complementary to the primary content data received from the primary external source prior to receipt of the primary content data, the storage database having a plurality of portions each including a piece of the subsidiary data and an identifier that indicates the primary content data associated with the subsidiary data, using the identifier included in the primary content data to obtain the piece of the subsidiary data associated with the primary content data; and

generating the display signal to cause the display to display displaying the associated subsidiary data on a display device.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions causing the machine set-top system to perform operations comprising:

~~receiving the subsidiary data corresponding to a program of the primary content data prior to receipt of the program; and~~

storing the subsidiary data corresponding to the program locally in the set-top system.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 14, wherein the instructions for obtaining subsidiary data comprises instructions causing the ~~machine set-top system~~ to perform operations comprising obtaining the subsidiary data from a local nonvolatile storage medium.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions causing the ~~machine set-top system~~ to perform operations comprising:

determining an elapsed time of a program of the primary content data;

identifying a portion of the subsidiary data which corresponds to the program;

identifying a piece of the portion of the subsidiary data which corresponds to the elapsed time of [[a]] the program; and

providing the piece concurrently with the primary content data.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the instructions for identifying a portion of the subsidiary data comprise instructions causing the ~~machine set-top system~~ to perform operations comprising accessing the storage database.

Claim 18 (currently amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions causing the ~~machine set-top system~~ to perform operations comprising reading an identifier associated with the primary content data to identify to identify the primary content data.

Claim 19 (canceled)

Claim 20 (currently amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the instructions further comprise instructions causing the ~~machine set-top system~~ to perform operations comprising retrieving the subsidiary data from a remote server.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The machine-readable medium of claim 13, wherein the subsidiary data comprises at least one of reference information regarding a program of the primary content data, biographical information regarding the actors, guests or participants of a program of the primary content data.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The machine-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the instructions for determining the identity of the primary content data are performed in response to a change in the primary content data currently displayed.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The machine-readable medium of claim 13 wherein the instructions for displaying the associated subsidiary data comprise instructions causing the ~~machine set-top system~~ to perform operations comprising ~~displaying generating the display signal with~~ the subsidiary data synchronous to the primary content data.

Claim 24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (currently amended): The ~~entertainment~~ set-top system of claim 40, wherein the second controller is to receive the subsidiary data corresponding to a program of the primary content data prior to receipt of the program from the primary external source; and store the subsidiary data corresponding to the program in the storage device.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The entertainment set-top system of claim 40, wherein the storage device comprises a local nonvolatile storage medium.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The entertainment set-top system of claim 40, wherein the second controller is further operative to:

determine an elapsed time of a program of the primary content data;

identify a portion of the subsidiary data in the storage device which corresponds to the program;

retrieve a piece of the portion of the subsidiary data which corresponds to the elapsed time of the program from the storage device; and

provide the retrieved piece to the display device synchronous to the elapsed time of the program.

Claim 28 (canceled)

Claim 29 (currently amended): The entertainment set-top system of claim 40, wherein the storage database includes an identification of a remote server from which subsidiary data may be retrieved and wherein the second controller is operative to request retrieval of the subsidiary data from the identified remote server.

Claim 30 (currently amended): The entertainment set-top system of claim 40, wherein the subsidiary data comprises at least one of reference information regarding a program of the primary content data, biographical information regarding the actors, guests or participants of a program of the primary content data.

Claim 31 (currently amended): The entertainment set-top system of claim 40, wherein the second controller is operative to determine the identity of the primary content data in response to a change in the primary content data currently displayed.

Claim 32 (currently amended): An entertainment system comprising:
a data receiver to receive primary content data from a first external source;
a storage database to store subsidiary data independent of and complementary to the primary content data received from the first external source prior to receipt of the primary content data, the storage database including a plurality of portions each including an identifier that indicates associated primary content data and a piece of the subsidiary data; and
a controller to determine whether subsidiary data corresponding to the currently displayed primary content data exists in the storage database using the identifier included in the primary content data, and to obtain the subsidiary data for display synchronous to the primary content data.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The entertainment system of claim 32 further comprising a second controller to combine the primary content data with the subsidiary data and forward the combined data to a display.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The entertainment system of claim 32 wherein the controller is to provide received subsidiary data to the storage database.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The entertainment system of claim 32 wherein the controller is to allow a user to interact with the storage database.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The entertainment system of claim 32 wherein the controller is to allow a user to access a programming guide.

Claim 37 (previously presented): The entertainment system of claim 32 wherein the controller is to allow a user to toggle enablement of the subsidiary data.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The method of claim 7, further comprising obtaining the associated subsidiary data based on a second identifier associated with the primary content data.

Claim 39 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising obtaining the associated subsidiary data based on a time period stored in the portion of the storage ~~database~~, the time period identifying a given time in the primary content data.

Claim 40 (currently amended): ~~An entertainment~~ A set-top system comprising:
a first data receiver to receive primary content data from a primary external source;
a storage device to store subsidiary data independent of and complementary to the primary content data;

a first controller to receive the primary content data from the first data receiver and associated subsidiary data from a second controller and provide the primary content data and the associated subsidiary data to a display; and

the second controller coupled between the first controller and the storage device to obtain and forward the associated subsidiary data to the first controller, wherein the second controller is to obtain the associated subsidiary data from the storage device based on an identifier included with the primary content data.